

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Atty. Dkt. No.: 5490-000269

DECLARATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe that I am the original and first inventor or inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MANIPULATING A FLEXIBLE STRAND AND SOFT TISSUE REPLACEMENT DURING SURGERY

the specification of which (check one)

is attached hereto.
or
 was filed on _____ as Application Serial No. or PCT International Application No. _____ and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)			PRIORITY CLAIM	
APPN. SERIAL NO.	COUNTRY	DATE FILED (MM/DD/YYYY)	Yes	No

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby appoint David L. Ahlersmeyer, Registration No. 31,938 of Biomet, Inc., Stephen J. Foss, Registration No. 31,251 and Richard W. Warner, Registration No. 38,043 of Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C., my attorney with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

I request the Patent and Trademark Office to direct all correspondence and telephone calls relative to this application to Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C., P. O. Box 828, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303 (248) 641-1600.

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Full name of sole or first inventor: Troy Walters

Inventor's signature: Troy Walters

Date: 1/28/02

Residence: 11401 Blue Bonnet Court, Plymouth, IN 46563

Citizenship: USA

Mailing Address: Same as residence

Full name of second joint inventor: Jason Meridew

Inventor's signature: J. Meridew

Date: 1/28/02

Residence: 415 Raleigh Court, Columbia City, IN 46775

Citizenship: USA

Mailing Address: Same as residence

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: To Be Assigned
Filing Date: To Be Assigned
Applicant: Troy Walters et al.
Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned
Examiner: To Be Assigned
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
MANIPULATING A FLEXIBLE STRAND
AND SOFT TISSUE REPLACEMENT
DURING SURGERY
Attorney Docket: 5490-000269

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b) AND POWER OF
ATTORNEY OR AUTHORIZATION OF AGENT**

Under 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b), the undersigned hereby states that the below-named
Assignee is an assignee in the above-identified Application:

Assignee: Arthrotek, Inc.
Airport Industrial Park
Warsaw, Indiana 46580

The documentary evidence of a chain of title from the original owner to the Assignee is
provided in the Assignment Document(s):

filed herewith,
 previously filed,

Reel No. , Frame No.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements, and the like so made, are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001, Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

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I hereby appoint David L. Ahlersmeyer, Reg. No. 31,938 of Biomet, Inc., Stephen J. Foss, Reg. 31,251, Richard W. Warner, Reg. No. 38,043 of Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C., my attorney with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is empowered to sign this certificate on behalf of the assignee.

Date:

1/29/02



Daniel P. Hann
Secretary